

Federal Trade Commission, FTC, which recommended much of what is contained in this legislation.

The occurrence of identity theft in the United States has reached epidemic proportions. The incidence of this crime rose 15 percent in 2002, and 80 percent in 2003. The FTC stated in February 2005 that each year nearly 10 million Americans—or roughly 4.6 percent of the domestic adult population—are victimized by identity thieves. The FTC indicates that physical and online identity theft accounted for 39 percent of the more than 635,000 consumer fraud complaints filed last year with the agency. The costs associated with identity theft are enormous. In 2003, the FTC estimated that the losses to businesses and financial institutions due to identity theft totaled \$48 billion, and the out-of-pocket losses to consumers totaled \$5 billion, which does not take into account the average 300 hours spent by victims restoring their good names.

This year alone, there have been at least 43 reported information breaches affecting potentially more than 9 million Americans. This string of data theft has focused the attention of Congress, consumers, and privacy proponents. It has raised questions concerning the business practices of data brokers and whether consumers' personal information is adequately protected from identity thieves. The difficulty of finding solutions to this and other types of identity theft is striking a balance between ensuring adequate security of sensitive personal information while not inhibiting the legitimate free flow of information that is vital to the domestic economy and law enforcement.

The bill that we introduce today will not end all identity theft. No legislation can accomplish that objective. But this bill would require bolstered information safeguards and ensure notification of consumers whose sensitive personal information has been acquired without authorization. More specifically, the bill, among other things, would direct the FTC to develop rules that would require all covered entities that handle sensitive personal information to develop, implement, and maintain appropriate safeguards to protect such information, and provide effective notice to consumers in the event of a breach. The bill would limit the solicitation of Social Security numbers by covered entities, and restrict employers, State agencies, or educational institutions from displaying social security numbers on identification tags for employees and students, and for drivers licenses. The bill also would allow consumers to freeze their credit for a reasonable fee to protect themselves from identity theft, and preempt similar State or local law in an effort to provide a uniform Federal standard rather than a patchwork of widely varying State or local laws.

I look forward to working with my colleagues on legislation that will

mitigate to the greatest extent possible the occurrence of identity theft in this country, but without inhibiting an information sharing system that yields extraordinary benefits to every American.

By Ms. MURKOWSKI:

S. 1409. A bill to amend the Safe Drinking Water Act Amendments of 1996 to modify the grant program to improve sanitation in rural and Native villages in the State of Alaska; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

Ms. MURKOWSKI. Mr. President, I rise to introduce a bill that will allow the Environmental Protection Agency to continue to provide grant funding and technical assistance to small, rural communities in Alaska for critical water and sewer projects. These rural communities are only accessible by either aircraft or boat.

This important funding was originally authorized as part of the Safe Drinking Water Act Amendments of 1996 and was reauthorized in 2000. The authorization for this program expires at the end of fiscal year 2005. Every fiscal year, the EPA transfers funding authorized by this program to the State of Alaska's Village Safe Water Program, which is managed by the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation.

The water and sewer conditions in the villages in Alaska that still need this critical funding rival the conditions in rural communities in third world countries. For example, residents in some villages in Alaska have to go to a central source in the community to get fresh water. This source is usually a well. Instead of flushing toilets, residents have to use a device called a "honeybucket." This device is a large bucket with a toilet seat on top. When the honeybucket is full, it is usually dumped in a lagoon or on land. Sometimes, these dump locations are near sources of drinking water.

The Village Safe Water program has been a success over the years. Many homes in Alaska's rural communities now have plumbing due to funds authorized by this program. However, thirty-three percent of homes in these communities still do not have in-house plumbing. It is unacceptable that the residents of these communities still do not have access to conventional plumbing in their homes in 2005.

Earlier this year, the Office of Management and Budget published a Program Assessment Rating Tool report concerning this program. This report found several deficiencies concerning the administration of this program. However, I have been assured that the EPA and the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation are working closely together to correct these deficiencies.

It is imperative that we reauthorize this critically important program before the end of this fiscal year. The health and well-being of rural Alaskans is at stake.

I ask unanimous consent that the text of this bill be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the bill was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

S. 1409

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. GRANTS TO ALASKA TO IMPROVE SANITATION IN RURAL AND NATIVE VILLAGES.

Section 303 of the Safe Drinking Water Act Amendments of 1996 (33 U.S.C. 1263a) is amended—

(1) in subsection (b), by striking "50 percent" and inserting "75 percent"; and

(2) in subsection (e)—

(A) by striking "\$40,000,000" and inserting "\$45,000,000"; and

(B) by striking "2005" and inserting "2010".

AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED

SA 1222. Mr. REID (for himself, Mr. LEVIN, Mr. ROCKEFELLER, Mr. BIDEN, and Mr. SCHUMER) proposed an amendment to the bill H.R. 2360, making appropriations for the Department of Homeland Security for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2006, and for other purposes.

SA 1223. Mr. FRIST proposed an amendment to the bill H.R. 2360, supra.

SA 1224. Mr. REID (for Mr. BYRD (for himself and Ms. STABENOW)) proposed an amendment to the bill H.R. 2360, supra.

SA 1225. Mr. GREGG (for Mr. KENNEDY) proposed an amendment to amendment SA 1139 proposed by Mr. SESSIONS (for himself and Mr. HATCH) to the bill H.R. 2360, supra.

TEXT OF AMENDMENTS

SA 1222. Mr. REID (for himself, Mr. LEVIN, Mr. ROCKEFELLER, Mr. BIDEN, and Mr. SCHUMER) proposed an amendment to the bill H.R. 2360, making appropriations for the Department of Homeland Security for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2006, and for other purposes; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. _____. No Federal employee who discloses, or has disclosed, classified information, including the identity of a covert agent of the Central Intelligence Agency, to a person not authorized to receive such information shall be permitted to hold a security clearance for access to such information.

SA 1223. Mr. FRIST proposed an amendment to the bill H.R. 2360, making appropriations for the Department of Homeland Security for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2006, and for other purposes; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. _____. Any federal officeholder who makes reference to a classified Federal Bureau of Investigation report on the floor of the United States Senate, or any federal officeholder that makes a statement based on an FBI agent's comments which is used as propaganda by terrorist organizations thereby putting our servicemen and women at risk, shall not be permitted access to such information or to hold a security clearance for access to such information.

SA 1224. Mr. REID (for Mr. BYRD (for himself and Ms. STABENOW)) proposed

an amendment to the bill H.R. 2360, making appropriations for the Department of Homeland Security for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2006, and for other purposes; as follows:

On page 81, line 24, increase the first amount by \$50,000,000.

On page 82, line 4, after "tion" insert "Provided further, That an additional \$50,000,000 shall be available to carry out section 33 (15 U.S.C. 2229)".

On page 77, line 20, increase the amount by \$20,000,000.

On page 77, line 24, after "grants" insert ", and of which at least \$20,000,000 shall be available for interoperable communications grants".

On page 85, line 18, after "expended" insert "Provided That the aforementioned sum shall be reduced by \$70,000,000".

On page 82, line 21, strike 11\$5,000,000" and insert "3,000,000".

SA 1225. Mr. GREGG (for Mr. KENNEDY) proposed an amendment to amendment SA 1139 proposed by Mr. SESSIONS (for himself and Mr. HATCH) to the bill H.R. 2360, making appropriations for the Department of Homeland Security for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2006, and for other purposes; as follows:

On page 1, line 8 of the amendment, after the word "database", insert "of which no less than \$2,000,000 shall be for the Legal Orientation Program."

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

COMMITTEE ON BANKING, HOUSING, AND URBAN AFFAIRS

Mr. GREGG. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on July 14, 2005, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing on "The Department of Treasury's report to Congress entitled: 'Assessment: The Terrorism Risk Insurance Act of 2002.'"

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

Mr. GREGG. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, July 14 at 10 a.m.

The purpose of the hearing is to consider the nominations of R. Thomas Weimer to be an Assistant Secretary of the Interior for Policy, Management and Budget, and Mark A. Limbaugh to be an Assistant Secretary of the Interior for Water and Science.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT AND PUBLIC WORKS

Mr. GREGG. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Environment and Public Works, be authorized to hold a hearing July 14, 2005 at 9:30 a.m. on the following pending nominations:

Marcus A. Peacock, of Minnesota, to be Deputy Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency.

Susan P. Bodine, of Maryland, to be Assistant Administrator, Office of Solid Waste and Emergency Response, Environmental Protection Agency.

Granta Y. Nakayama, of Virginia, to be Assistant Administrator, Office of Enforcement & Compliance Assurance, Environmental Protection Agency.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

Mr. GREGG. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Foreign Relations be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, July 14, 2005 at 3 p.m. to hold a hearing on Nominations.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. without objection, it is so ordered.

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, EDUCATION, LABOR, AND PENSIONS

Mr. GREGG. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions and the Indian Affairs Committee be authorized to hold a joint hearing during the session of the Senate on Thursday, July 14, 2005 at 2:30 p.m. in SD-430.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

COMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY AND GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

Mr. GREGG. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs be authorized to meet on Thursday, July 14, 2005, at 1:30 p.m., for a hearing titled, "Department of Homeland Security: Second Stage Review."

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

Mr. GREGG. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on the Judiciary be authorized to meet to conduct a markup on Thursday, July 14, 2005 at 9:30 a.m., in the Senate Dirksen Office Building, Room 226.

I. Bills: S. 1088, Streamlined Procedures Act of 2005—KYL, CORNYN, GRASSLEY; S. ____, Personal Data Privacy and Security Act of 2005—SPECTER, LEAHY; S. 751, Notification of Risk to Personal Data Act—FEINSTEIN; S. 1326, Notification of Risk to Personal Data Act—SESSIONS; S. 155, Gang Prevention and Effective Deterrence Act of 2005—FEINSTEIN, HATCH, GRASSLEY, CORNYN, KYL, SPECTER; S. 103, Combat Meth Act of 2005—TALENT, FEINSTEIN, KOHL; S. 1086, A Bill to Improve the National Program to Register and Monitor Individuals Who Commit Crimes Against Children or Sex Offenses—HATCH, BIDEN; S. 956, Jetseta Gage Prevention and Deterrence of Crimes Against Children Act of 2005—GRASSLEY, KYL, CORNYN.

II. Matters: Senate Judiciary Committee Rules.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

COMMITTEE ON INDIAN AFFAIRS

Mr. GREGG. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Com-

mittee on Indian Affairs be authorized to meet on Thursday, July 14, 2005, at 2:30 p.m. in Room 430 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building to conduct a joint hearing with the Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor and Pensions on S. 1057, the Indian Health Care Improvement Act Amendments of 2005.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

COMMITTEE ON VETERANS' AFFAIRS

Mr. GREGG. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Veterans' Affairs be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, July 14, 2005, for a hearing to consider the nominations of James P. Terry to be Chairman of the Board of Veterans' Appeals, Department of Veterans' Affairs and Charles S. Ciccolella to be Assistant Secretary for Veterans' Employment and Training, Department of Labor.

The hearing will take place in Room 418 of the Russell Senate Office Building at 10:30 a.m.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE

Mr. GREGG. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Select Committee on Intelligence be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on July 14, 2005 at 2:30 p.m. to hold a closed briefing.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON BIOTERRORISM AND PUBLIC HEALTH PREPAREDNESS

Mr. GREGG. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Subcommittee on Bioterrorism and Public Health Preparedness, be authorized to hold a hearing during the session of the Senate on Thursday, July 14th at 10 a.m. in SD-430.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON NATIONAL PARKS

Mr. GREGG. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Subcommittee on National Parks be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, July 14 at 2:30 p.m.

The purpose of the hearing is to review the national park service's business strategy for operation and management of the national park system, including development and implementation of business plans, use of business consultants, and incorporating business practices into day-to-day operations.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON OVERSIGHT OF GOVERNMENT MANAGEMENT, THE FEDERAL WORKFORCE AND THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

Mr. GREGG. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Subcommittee on Oversight of Government Management, the Federal Workforce, and the District of Columbia be authorized to meet on Thursday, July 14, 2005 at 9:30 a.m. for a hearing entitled,